

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 3525 ACTION SECSTATE INFO USUN NEW
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QUOTE

UNCLAS GENEVA 3525

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCOM WMO

SUBJECT: PROJECT STORMFURY

1. SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH THE JAPANESE AND CHINESE
DELEGATIONS TO THE 7TH WMO CONGRESS IN GENEVA ON U.S. PROJECT
STORMFURY REVEAL THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.

2. MOHRI (JAPAN) DIRECTOR, METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY, WAS UNDER
INSTRUCTIONS TO INDICATE THE RESERVATION OF GOJ TO OPERATIONAL
PROGRAM OR FIELD EXPERIMENT ON TYPHOON MODIFICATION IN PACIFIC.
JAPANESE IN FAVOR OF QUOTE RESEARCH QUOTE PROGRAM. MOHRI STRESSED THA
T
BOTH PUBLIC OPPOSITION AND MINISTRY-LEVEL OPPOSITION IN JAPAN
QUITE FIRM. SUMMARY OF DEBATE ON THIS ITEM IN WMO CONGRESS WILL
LIKELY INCLUDE THESE JAPANESE VIEWS.

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3. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH THE CHINESE, TSOU CHING-MENG,

HEAD OF DELEGATION, SHOWED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN AND HAD MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT U.S. PROPOSAL FOR PACIFIC TYPHOON MODIFICATION EQUIPMENT. WHITE OFFERED TO PROVIDE CHINESE WITH INFORMATION ON PROJECT AND SCIENTIFIC BASIS FOR FIELD EXPERIMENTATION. CHINESE REQUESTED THAT SUCH INFORMATION BE PROVIDED VIA AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY SO THAT DURING VISIT TO THE U.S. UNDER SOCIETY AUSPICES IN OCTOBER 1975 CHINESE DELEGATION WOULD BE IN POSITION TO DISCUSS ASPECTS OF PROJECT IN MAAMI WITH NOAA SCIENTISTS.

4. TSOU QUESTIONED BASIS OF SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE THAT ONLY WIND FIELD WOULD BE AFFECTED AND NOT RAINFALL. HE ALSO QUERIED BASIC REASON FOR SHIFT OF PROJECT TO PACIFIC. EXPLANATION THAT INCREASED FREQUENCY OF STORMS WOULD PERMIT EARLY COMPLETION OF REASEARCH SEEMED TO SATISFY HIM. WHITE POINTED OUT THAT PRESENT PLAN IS TO SEED ONLY SMALL NUMBER OF STORMS SO AS TO DETERMINE WHETHER SEEDING TECHNIQUES ARE EFFECTIVE.

5. TSOU ASKED ABOUT ATTITUDE OF GOVERNMENTS OTHER THAN THOSE OF PHILIPPINES AND JAPAN. WHITE STATED THAT TO DATE U.S. HAD NO INDICATION OF RESERVATIONS OTHER THAN THOSE FROM JAPAN. TSOU THEN ASKED SPECIFICALLY ABOUT ATTITUDES OF GOVERNMENTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. REPLY WAS THAT THESE WERE UNKNOWN TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

6. TSOU THEN ADVANCED INTERESTING PROPOSAL THAT COOPERATIVE STUDY OF PROJECT INVOLVING NATIONS IN FAR EAST BE UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING DECISION ON FIELD EXPERIMENTATION; BUT OFFERED NO SPECIFICS OF THIS PROPOSAL. NEVERTHELESS, HIS PROPOSAL DOES APPEAR TO INDICATE WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER THE SUBJECT FURTHER. DALE

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